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PART II — Section 2

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NEW DELHI, MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2008 / PHALGUNA 13, 1929

इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिससे कि यह अलग संकलन के रूप में रखा जा सके।

Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

LOK SABHA

The following Bills were introduced in Lok Sabha on 3rd March, 2008:—

BILL No. 18 OF 2008

A Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Delimitation (Amendment) Act, 2008.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 14th day of January, 2008.

35 of 2002.

2. In section 10 of the Delimitation Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),—

(i) in sub-section (4), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

“Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall apply to the delimitation orders published in relation to the State of Jharkhand.”;

(ii) in sub-section (6), for the words “within two years of the constitution of the Commission”, the words “within a period not later than 31st day of July, 2008” shall be substituted.

Short title and
commence-
ment.

Amendment
of section 10.

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Insertion of
new sections
10A and 10B.

3. After section 10 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:—

Deferment of
delimitation in
certain cases.

“10A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 4, 8 and 9, if the President is satisfied that a situation has arisen whereby the unity and integrity of India is threatened or there is a serious threat to the peace and public order, he may, by order, defer the delimitation exercise in a State.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid before each House of Parliament.

Delimitation
Commission's
order with
respect to the
State of
Jharkhand not
to have any
legal effect.

10B. Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2) of section 10, the final orders relating to readjustment of number of seats and delimitation of constituencies in respect of the State of Jharkhand published under the said section *vide* Order O.N. 63(E), dated 30th April, 2007 and O.N. 110(E), dated 17th August, 2007 shall have no legal effect and the delimitation of the constituencies as it stood before the publication of the said Orders shall continue to be in force until the year 2026 in relation to every election to the House of the People or to the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, held after the commencement of the Delimitation (Amendment) Act, 2008.”

Repeal and
savings.

4. (1) The Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

Ord.
1 of 2008.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Parliament enacted the Delimitation Act, 2002 and under its provisions, a Delimitation Commission was set-up to readjust the division of each State and Union territory into territorial constituencies for the purpose of elections to the House of the People and to the State Legislative Assemblies on the basis of 2001 Census. The Delimitation Commission has since completed the delimitation exercise in 25 States/Union territories.

2. As the work of the Delimitation Commission progressed, new issues started coming to the fore and several concerns have been expressed regarding the on going delimitation exercise. The concerns expressed in regard to delimitation are varying in nature. They include issues, such as, shifting of constituencies, making reserved constituencies unreserved or *vice versa*, migration of people from tribal States to non-tribal States, migration of people in a State from rural areas to urban areas, etc. In the North-East States, even the census figures had been questioned in courts as incomplete and defective. The issues in regard to delimitation of constituencies are serious and very sensitive in nature and they may have impact even on the law and order situation in some parts of the country.

3. In this background, the Government considered the amendments in the Delimitation Act, 2002 with a view to reducing the adverse impact of the delimitation exercise and it was decided that:

(i) new section 10A may be added which should *inter alia* enable the President to defer delimitation exercise in a State in order to preserve and protect the national unity and integrity or where there is a serious threat to the peace and public order;

(ii) Delimitation Commission's order made with respect to the State of Jharkhand may be nullified and to continue the existing delimitation orders until the year 2026 in respect of that State.

4. In view of the exigencies explained in the preceding paragraphs, it became necessary to promulgate an Ordinance to insert a suitable provision (section 10A) in the Delimitation Act, 2002 for the deferment of the delimitation exercise in the North-East States; and to take care of the situation obtaining in the State of Jharkhand to insert a new section 10B and a proviso to sub-section (4) of section 10 of the Act so as to reduce the adverse impacts of the delimitation.

5. As Parliament was not in session and the President was satisfied with the circumstances which rendered it necessary for her to take immediate action to take care of the situation in the North-East States and the Jharkhand by promulgation of the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 on the 14th January, 2008.

6. The Delimitation (Amendment) Bill, 2008 seeks to replace the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008.

NEW DELHI;

HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ.

The 21st February, 2008.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for insertion of new section 10A which empowers the President to make an order for deferment of delimitation exercise in any State, if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen whereby the unity and integrity of India is threatened or there is a serious threat to the peace and public order.

2. The clause empower the Government to assess the situation in the North-East States, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland as to whether the conditions prevailing there are conducive for the conduct of delimitation exercise by the Delimitation Commission and enable the Government to take follow-up action, if necessary, by advising the President to defer the delimitation exercise in such States.

3. The order made under the Bill is also required to be laid before Parliament. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

BILL NO. 19 OF 2008

A Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Railways (Amendment) Act, 2008.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 31st day of January, 2008.

2. In section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act),—

(a) after clause (7), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(7A) “competent authority” means any person authorised by the Central Government, by notification, to perform the functions of the competent authority for such area as may be specified in the notification;”

(b) after clause (29), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(29A) “person interested” includes,—

(i) all persons claiming an interest in compensation to be made on account of the acquisition of land under this Act;

(ii) tribals and other traditional forest dwellers, who have lost any traditional rights recognised under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006;

(iii) a person interested in an easement affecting the land; and

(iv) persons having tenancy rights under the relevant State laws;”

Short title
and com-
mencement.

Amendment
of section 2.

24 of 1989.

2 of 2007.

(c) after clause (37), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

‘(37A) “special railway project” means a project, notified as such by the Central Government from time to time, for providing national infrastructure for a public purpose in a specified time-frame, covering one or more States or the Union territories;’.

Insertion of
new Chapter
IVA.

3. After Chapter IV of the principal Act, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

‘CHAPTER IVA

LAND ACQUISITION FOR A SPECIAL RAILWAY PROJECT

Power to
acquire land,
etc.

20A. (1) Where the Central Government is satisfied that for a public purpose any land is required for execution of a special railway project, it may, by notification, declare its intention to acquire such land.

(2) Every notification under sub-section (1), shall give a brief description of the land and of the special railway project for which the land is intended to be acquired.

(3) The State Government or the Union territory, as the case may be, shall for the purposes of this section, provide the details of the land records to the competent authority, whenever required.

(4) The competent authority shall cause the substance of the notification to be published in two local newspapers, one of which shall be in a vernacular language.

Power to
enter for
survey, etc

20B. On the issue of a notification under sub-section (1) of section 20A, it shall be lawful for any person, authorised by the competent authority in this behalf, to—

(a) make any inspection, survey, measurement, valuation or enquiry;

(b) take levels;

(c) dig or bore into sub-soil;

(d) set out boundaries and intended lines of work;

(e) mark such levels, boundaries and lines placing marks and cutting trenches; or

(f) do such other acts or things as may be considered necessary by the competent authority.

Evaluation of
damages
during survey,
measurement,
etc.

20C. The damages caused while carrying out works on land such as survey, digging or boring sub-soil, marking boundaries or cutting trenches or clearing away any standing crop, fence or forest or doing such other acts or things which may cause damages while acting under section 20B particularly relating to land which is excluded from acquisition proceeding, shall be evaluated and compensation shall be paid to the persons having interest in that land, within six months from the completion of the said works.

Hearing of
objections,
etc.

20D. (1) Any person interested in the land may, within a period of thirty days from the date of publication of the notification under sub-section (1) of section 20A, object to the acquisition of land for the purpose mentioned in that sub-section.

(2) Every objection under sub-section (1), shall be made to the competent authority in writing, and shall set out the grounds thereof and the competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the competent authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

25 of 1961.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this sub-section, “legal practitioner” has the same meaning as in clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Advocates Act, 1961.

(3) Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) shall be final.

20E. (1) Where no objection under sub-section (1) of section 20D has been made to the competent authority within the period specified therein or where the competent authority has disallowed the objections under sub-section (2) of that section, the competent authority shall, as soon as may be, submit a report accordingly to the Central Government and on receipt of such report, the Central Government shall declare, by notification, that the land should be acquired for the purpose mentioned in sub-section (1) of section 20A.

Declaration
of acquisition.

(2) On the publication of the declaration under sub-section (1), the land shall vest absolutely in the Central Government free from all encumbrances.

(3) Where in respect of any land, a notification has been published under sub-section (1) of section 20A for its acquisition, but no declaration under sub-section (1) of this section has been published within a period of one year from the date of publication of that notification, the said notification shall cease to have any effect:

Provided that in computing the said period of one year, the period during which any action or proceedings to be taken in pursuance of the notification issued under sub-section (1) of section 20A is stayed by an order of a court shall be excluded.

(4) A declaration made by the Central Government under sub-section (1) shall not be called in question in any court or by any other authority.

20F. (1) Where any land is acquired under this Act, there shall be paid an amount which shall be determined by an order of the competent authority.

Determina-
tion of
amount
payable as
compensa-
tion.

(2) The competent authority shall make an award under this section within a period of one year from the date of the publication of the declaration and if no award is made within that period, the entire proceedings for the acquisition of the land shall lapse:

Provided that the competent authority may, after the expiry of the period of limitation, if he is satisfied that the delay has been caused due to unavoidable circumstances, and for the reasons to be recorded in writing, he may make the award within an extended period of six months:

Provided further that where an award is made within the extended period, the entitled person shall, in the interest of justice, be paid an additional compensation for the delay in making of the award, every month for the period so extended, at the rate of not less than five per cent. of the value of the award, for each month of such delay.

(3) Where the right of user or any right in the nature of an easement on, any land is acquired under this Act, there shall be paid an amount to the owner and any other person whose right of enjoyment in that land has been affected in any manner whatsoever by reason of such acquisition; an amount calculated at ten per cent. of the amount determined under sub-section (1), for that land.

(4) Before proceeding to determine the amount under sub-section (1) or sub-section (3), as the case may be, the competent authority shall give a public notice published in two local newspapers, one of which shall be in a vernacular language inviting claims from all persons interested in the land to be acquired.

(5) Such notice shall state the particulars of the land and shall require all persons interested in such land to appear in person or by an agent or by a legal practitioner referred to in sub-section (2) of section 20D, before the competent authority, at a time and place and to state the nature of their respective interest in such land.

(6) If the amount determined by the competent authority under sub-section (1) or as the case may be, sub-section (3) is not acceptable to either of the parties, the amount shall, on an application by either of the parties, be determined by the arbitrator to be appointed by the Central Government in such manner as may be prescribed.

(7) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 shall apply to every arbitration under this Act.

26 of 1961

(8) The competent authority or the arbitrator while determining the amount of compensation under sub-section (1) or sub-section (6), as the case may be, shall take into consideration—

(a) the market-value of the land on the date of publication of the notification under section 20A;

(b) the damage, if any, sustained by the person interested at the time of taking possession of the land, by reason of the severing of such land from other land;

(c) the damage, if any, sustained by the person interested at the time of taking possession of the land, by reason of the acquisition injuriously affecting his other immovable property in any manner, or his earnings;

(d) if, in consequences of the acquisition of the land, the person interested is compelled to change his residence or place of business, the reasonable expenses, if any, incidental to such change.

(9) In addition to the market-value of the land as above provided, the competent authority or the arbitrator, as the case may be, shall in every case award a sum of sixty per centum on such market-value, in consideration of the compulsory nature of the acquisition.

Criterion for
determina-
tion of
market-value
of land.

20G. (1) The competent authority shall adopt the following criteria in assessing and determining the market-value of the land,—

(i) the minimum land value, if any, specified in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, for the registration of sale deeds in the area, where the land is situated; or

2 of 1899.

(ii) the average of the sale price for similar type of land situated in the village or vicinity, ascertained from not less than fifty per cent. of the sale deeds registered during the preceding three years, where higher price has been paid;

whichever is higher.

(2) Where the provisions of sub-section (1) are not applicable for the reason that—

(i) the land is situated in such area where the transactions in land are restricted by or under any other law for the time being in force in that area; or

(ii) the registered sale deeds for similar land as mentioned in clause (i) of sub-section (1) are not available for the preceding three years; or

(iii) the minimum land value has not been specified under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 by the appropriate authority,

2 of 1899.

the concerned State Government shall specify the floor price per unit area of the said land based on the average higher prices paid for similar type of land situated in the adjoining areas or vicinity, ascertained from not less than fifty per cent. of the sale deeds registered during the preceding three years where higher price has been paid, and the competent authority may calculate the value of the land accordingly.

(3) The competent authority shall, before assessing and determining the market-value of the land being acquired under this Act,—

(a) ascertain the intended land use category of such land; and

(b) take into account the value of the land of the intended category in the adjoining areas or vicinity,

for the purpose of determination of the market-value of the land being acquired.

(4) In determining the market-value of the building and other immovable property or assets attached to the land or building which are to be acquired, the competent authority may use the services of a competent engineer or any other specialist in the relevant field, as may be considered necessary by the competent authority.

(5) The competent authority may, for the purpose of determining the value of trees and plants, use the services of experienced persons in the field of agriculture, forestry, horticulture, sericulture, or any other field, as may be considered necessary by him.

(6) For the purpose of assessing the value of the standing crops damaged during the process of land acquisition proceedings, the competent authority may utilise the services of experienced persons in the field of agriculture as he considers necessary.

20H. (1) The amount determined under section 20F shall be deposited by the Central Government, in such manner as may be prescribed by that Government, with the competent authority before taking possession of the land.

Deposit and
payment of
amount.

(2) As soon as may be after the amount has been deposited under sub-section (1), the competent authority shall on behalf of the Central Government pay the amount to the person or persons entitled thereto.

(3) Where several persons claim to be interested in the amount deposited under sub-section (1), the competent authority shall determine the persons who in its opinion are entitled to receive the amount payable to each of them.

(4) If any dispute arises as to the apportionment of the amount or any part thereof or to any person to whom the same or any part thereof is payable, the competent authority shall refer the dispute to the decision of the principal civil court of original jurisdiction within the limits of whose jurisdiction the land is situated.

(5) Where the amount determined under section 20F by the arbitrator is in excess of the amount determined by the competent authority, the arbitrator may award interest at nine per cent. per annum on such excess amount from the date of taking possession under section 20-I till the date of actual deposit thereof.

(6) Where the amount determined by the arbitrator is in excess of the amount determined by the competent authority, the excess amount together with interest, if any, awarded under sub-section (5) shall be deposited by the Central Government, in such manner as may be prescribed by that Government, with the competent authority and the provisions of sub-sections (2) to (4) shall apply to such deposit.

20-I. (1) Where any land has vested in the Central Government under sub-section (2) of section 20E, and the amount determined by the competent authority under section 20F with respect to such land has been deposited under sub-section (1) of section 20H with the competent authority by the Central Government, the competent authority may, by notice in writing, direct the owner as well as any other person who may be in possession of such land to surrender or deliver possession thereof to the competent authority or any person duly authorised by it in this behalf within a period of sixty days of the service of the notice.

Power to
take
possession.

(2) If any person refuses or fails to comply with any direction made under sub-section (1), the competent authority shall apply—

(a) in case of any land situated in any area falling within the metropolitan area, to the Commissioner of Police;

(b) in case of any land situated in any area other than the area referred to in clause (a), to the Collector of a district,

and such Commissioner or Collector, as the case may be, shall enforce the surrender of the land, to the competent authority or to the person duly authorised by it.

20J. Where the land has vested in the Central Government under section 20E, it shall be lawful for any person authorised by the Central Government in this behalf, to enter and do other act necessary upon the land for carrying out the building, maintenance, management or operation of the special railway project or part thereof or any other work connected therewith.

Right to
enter into
land where
land has
vested in
Central
Government.

Competent authority to have certain powers of civil court.

20K. The competent authority shall have, for the purposes of this Act, all the powers of a civil court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 in respect of the following matters, namely:—

5 of 1908

- (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (b) requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- (c) reception of evidence on affidavits;
- (d) requisitioning any public record from any court or office;
- (e) issuing commission for examination of witnesses.

Utilisation of land for the purpose it is acquired.

20L. (1) The land acquired under this Act shall not be transferred to any other purpose except for a public purpose, and after obtaining the prior approval of the Central Government.

(2) When any land or part thereof, acquired under this Act remains unutilised for a period of five years from the date of taking over the possession, the same shall return to the Central Government by reversion.

Sharing with landowners the difference in price of a land when transferred for a higher consideration.

20M. Whenever any land acquired under this Act is transferred to any person for a consideration, eighty per cent. of the difference in the acquisition cost and the consideration received, which in no case shall be less than the acquisition cost, shall be shared amongst the persons from whom the lands were acquired or their heirs, in proportion to the value at which the lands were acquired, and for the purpose, a separate fund may be maintained which shall be administered by the competent authority in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

Land Acquisition Act 1 of 1894 not to apply.

20N. Nothing in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 shall apply to an acquisition under this Act.

Application of the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 to persons affected due to land acquisition.

20-O. The provisions of the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 for project affected families, notified by the Government of India in the Ministry of Rural Development *vide* number F.26011/4/2007-LRD, dated the 31st October, 2007, shall apply in respect of acquisition of land by the Central Government under this Act.

Power to make rules in respect of matters in this Chapter.

20P. (1) The Central Government may, by notification, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Chapter.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

- (a) the manner of appointment of arbitrator under sub-section (6) of section 20F;
- (b) the manner in which the amount shall be deposited with the competent authority under sub-sections (1) and (6) of section 20H;
- (c) the manner of maintenance and administration of separate fund for the purposes of section 20M.

Repeal and savings.

4. (1) The Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 is hereby repealed.

Ord. 2 of 2008.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of the principal Act, as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Provision of critical basic infrastructure is essential in order to have sustainable economic growth and development of our country. Important projects relating to basic infrastructure require acquisition of land. The only instrument available for acquisition of land for public purpose is the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. The existing provisions under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 are insufficient for completion of such projects on expeditious basis in a time schedule manner due to excessive time taken under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

2. There is a need to provide for land acquisition provisions in the Railways Act, 1989 to empower the Central Government in the Ministry of Railways for land acquisition on fast track basis for the special railway projects on the lines of the land acquisition provisions available in the National Highways Act, 1956.

3. It has been the experience that a large number of disputes relating to compensation amount for land acquisition are brought before the courts of law. Often, these cases are pending for a long period of time in the courts and add to the work-load of the courts. Therefore, an expeditious mechanism of arbitration process is provided to resolve the dispute relating to amount of compensation.

4. In order to safeguard the interests of person affected by land acquisition for special railway projects, it is provided in proposed section 20-O of the Bill that the provisions of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 shall apply.

5. The amendments in the Railways Act, 1989 shall empower the Central Government in the Ministry of Railways (Railway Administration) for land acquisition for the public purpose by striking a balance between creation of basic critical infrastructure in the country and protecting the interest of the persons whose land is acquired.

6. As Parliament was not in session, and to give impetus to the critical infrastructure projects, it was considered necessary to take immediate action for making suitable provisions in the Railways Act, 1989 by promulgation of the Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 on the 31st January, 2008.

7. The Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2008 seeks to replace the Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 to achieve the above objectives.

NEW DELHI;

LALU PRASAD.

The 21st February, 2008.

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FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill seeks to provide for separate provisions relating to acquisition of land by amending the Railways Act, 1989, which will empower the Central Government in the Ministry of Railways to acquire land for the special railway projects which are essential for provision of basic infrastructure in the country. Acquisition of land involves payment of compensation to land owners.

2. As per new section 20F of the Bill, the amount of compensation shall be based on market-value of land. In addition to the market-value, the solatium at the rate of sixty per cent. shall, invariably be paid to land owners in consideration of the compulsory nature of acquisition. The provisions of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 notified by the Government of India have also been extended to displaced persons as per new section 20-O.

3. The amount of compensation and other expenses relating thereto shall be borne out of the fund sanctioned for the special railway projects. The Bill does not require any budgetary support and thus any expenditure would be a part of the administrative expenditure of the Ministry.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Section 20P of the Bill seeks to empower the Central Government to make rules to carry out the purposes of the Bill. Such rules may, *inter alia*, provide for the manner of appointment of arbitrator under sub-section (6) of section 20F; the manner in which the amount shall be deposited with the competent authority under sub-sections (1) and (6) of section 20H; and the manner of maintenance and administration of separate fund for the purposes of section 20M.

2. The rules made under the Bill are also required to be laid before each House of Parliament under the provisions of existing section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989. The matters in respect of which rules may be made under the aforesaid provisions of the Bill are matter of procedure and administrative details and it is not practical to provide them in the Bill. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

P.D.T. ACHARY,
Secretary-General.